



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Bosque Revitalization@ Route 66 Cooperation Agreement to be signed**

*Project Cooperation Agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District*

*Signing will be Lt. Colonel Kimberly Colloton, Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Albuquerque District, and Gary Perry, Chairman of the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District Board of Directors*

## **TODAY**

**Friday, July 25<sup>th</sup>  
3:00 p.m.**

at the

Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District Boardroom  
Bernalillo County Public Works Division office  
1931 Second St. SW  
Albuquerque, N.M. 87102

- more -

## **Background –**

Early this spring, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (MRGCD) agreed to partner in the final design and construction of the Bosque Revitalization @ Route 66 Project. Together with other local authorities and organizations, including the Interstate Stream Commission, City of Albuquerque, and Bureau of Reclamation, they developed a detailed plan for construction. This project is authorized under Section 1135 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986.

The Bosque Revitalization @ Route 66 Project area includes the west bank of the Rio Grande from Bridge Street to approximately ½ mile north of Central Avenue. The project will restore ecosystem function to this river section, create habitat for endangered species (Rio Grande silvery minnow and southwestern willow flycatcher), and increase public awareness of resource conservation. The project will restore approximately 121 acres of bosque. This will be accomplished by removing exotic vegetation and replacing with natives, creating high-flow channels and wetland habitat, and removing debris and dysfunctional jetty jacks. Ancillary features will include public access trails and a boardwalk, observation platforms, and educational signage. The project is considered the first phase construction of the large Middle Rio Grande Restoration Project, which will extend for 17 river miles on the Rio Grande, between the North and South Diversion Channels.

In order for the Route 66 Project to be implemented, a Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) between the Corps and MRGCD is required. A PCA sets forth the cost sharing requirements and legal obligations and responsibilities of the Corps and the local sponsor.